a) an antagonist for the PTHrP receptor;

b) an anti-PTHrP antibody;

c) a fragment of an anti-PTHrP antibody and/or a modified form of the fragment.

15. (New) The anti-PTHrP antibody of claim 14, wherein antibody is chosen from at least one of a human antibody, a humanized antibody, and a chimeric antibody.

16. (New) The therapeutic agent according to claim 5, wherein the drug-resistant hypercalcemia is caused by cancer.

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are now pending in this application. Applicants have filed this Preliminary Amendment to ensure that the pending claims meet with U.S. practice requirements. Specifically, Applicants have eliminated improper multiple dependency and clarified grammar in the claims. New claims 14, 15, and 16 are based on claims 6-8, 10, and 13, respectively. These new claims were added to replace subject matter cancelled to eliminate improper multiple dependency and thus do not add any new matter to the application.

These Amendments do not change the scope of the claims in any way and are not substantive, but are only made to more particularly define the invention and conform with U.S. requirements on multiple dependency. Applicants request the consideration of this application and examination of these claims.

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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 26, 2002

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APPENDIX TO THE AMENDMENT

This appendix illustrates the specific changes made to the amended claims. Deletions from the claims are shown using a strikeout font and square brackets, while additions are shown using underlining.

1. (Amended) A therapeutic agent for drug-resistant hypercalcemia comprising[~~, as~~] an active ingredient[~~, a substance capable of inhibiting~~] that inhibits the binding between [~~parathyroid hormone related protein (~~]PTHrP[~~)~~] and a receptor thereof.

2. (Amended) The therapeutic agent according to claim 1, wherein the drug-resistant hypercalcemia is resistant to a therapeutic agent for hypercalcemia other than [~~a substance~~] an active ingredient [~~capable of inhibiting~~] that inhibits the binding between PTHrP and a receptor thereof.

3. (Amended) The therapeutic agent according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the therapeutic agent for hypercalcemia is chosen from at least one of a bone resorption-inhibiting agent, a calcium excretion-promoting agent, an agent for inhibiting intestinal absorption of calcium [~~or~~], and a loop diuretic.

5. The therapeutic agent according to claim 4, wherein the bone resorption-inhibiting agent is [~~a~~] at least one of bisphosphonate or calcitonin.

6. (Amended) The therapeutic agent according to any one of claims [~~1 to 5~~] 1 or 2, wherein the [~~substance~~] active ingredient is an antagonist for the PTHrP receptor.

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7. (Amended) The therapeutic agent according to any one of claims [~~1 to 5~~] 1 or 2, wherein the [~~substance~~] active ingredient is an anti-PTHrP antibody.

8. (Amended) The therapeutic agent according to any one of claims [~~1 to 5~~] 1 or 2, wherein the [~~substance~~] active ingredient is a fragment of an anti-PTHrP antibody and/or a modified form of the fragment.

10. (Amended) The therapeutic agent according to claim 7, wherein the antibody is chosen from at least one of a human antibody, [~~or~~]a humanized [~~or~~]antibody, and a chimeric antibody.

14. (Amended) The therapeutic agent according to any one of claims [~~1 to 12~~] 1 or 2, wherein the drug-resistant hypercalcemia is caused by cancer.

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